

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

- 1 1. A metallic product comprising:  
2 a metallic curved hollow member having a hollow cross section which  
3 comprises a thin wall portion and a thick wall portion which is thicker than the thin  
4 wall portion, the metallic curved hollow member being produced by bending a  
5 metallic straight hollow member produced by extrusion of aluminum material which  
6 is one of aluminum and aluminum alloy.
- 1 2. The metallic product as claimed in claim 1, in which the thick wall portion and  
2 the thin wall portion extend in a longitudinal direction of the metallic curved hollow  
3 member, in which the thick wall portion and the thin wall portion are sections  
4 formed by the extrusion, and in which the thick wall portion and the thin wall  
5 portion extend along a periphery of the hollow cross section of the metallic curved  
6 hollow member.
- 1 3. The metallic product as claimed in claim 2, in which the metallic straight  
2 hollow member has a hollow cross section which comprises a thin wall portion and a  
3 thick wall portion which is thicker than the thin wall portion, the thin wall portion  
4 and the thick wall portion extending along a periphery of the hollow cross section of  
5 the metallic straight hollow member.
- 1 4. The metallic product as claimed in claim 3, in which the metallic straight  
2 hollow member is formed into an eccentric pipe comprising an inner cylindrical  
3 surface and an outer cylindrical surface, the inner cylindrical surface being eccentric  
4 from the outer cylindrical surface.
- 1 5. The metallic product as claimed in claim 2, in which the thick wall portion of  
2 the metallic curved hollow member is shaped substantially into a box girder, and  
3 extends from a first corner to a second corner adjacent to the first corner along the  
4 periphery of the hollow cross section of the metallic curved hollow member.

1 6. A production process of forming a metallic curved hollow member, the process  
2 comprising:

3 forming a metallic straight hollow member by extrusion of aluminum material  
4 which is one of aluminum and aluminum alloy; and

5 bending the metallic straight hollow member into the metallic curved hollow  
6 member, the metallic curved hollow member having a hollow cross section which  
7 comprises a thin wall portion and a thick wall portion which is thicker than the thin  
8 wall portion.

1 7. A metallic product comprising:

2 a metallic curved hollow member having a hollow cross section which  
3 comprises a cross-shaped portion, the metallic curved hollow member being  
4 produced by bending a metallic straight hollow member produced by extrusion of  
5 aluminum material which is one of aluminum and aluminum alloy.

1 8. A production process of forming a metallic curved hollow member, the process  
2 comprising:

3 forming a metallic straight hollow member by extrusion of aluminum material  
4 which is one of aluminum and aluminum alloy; and

5 bending the metallic straight hollow member into the metallic curved hollow  
6 member, the metallic curved hollow member having a hollow cross section which  
7 comprises a cross-shaped portion.

1 9. A vehicular member construction comprising:

2 a pair of side members extending substantially in a fore-and-aft direction of a  
3 vehicle and spaced apart from each other substantially in a widthwise direction of  
4 the vehicle; and

5 a cross member for connecting the pair of the side members;

6 wherein at least one of the side member and the cross member has a hollow  
7 cross section comprising:

8 a thin wall portion; and

9 a thick wall portion which is thicker than the thin wall portion.

1 10. The vehicular member construction as claimed in claim 9, in which the at least  
2 one of the side member and the cross member that has the hollow cross section  
3 comprising the thick wall portion is produced by bending a metallic straight hollow  
4 member produced by extrusion of aluminum material which is one of aluminum and  
5 aluminum alloy.

1 11. The vehicular member construction as claimed in claim 10, in which the thick  
2 wall portion and the thin wall portion extend in a longitudinal direction of the side  
3 member, and in which the thick wall portion and the thin wall portion are sections  
4 formed by the extrusion.

1 12. The vehicular member construction as claimed in claim 11, in which the  
2 metallic straight hollow member has a hollow cross section which comprises a thin  
3 wall portion and a thick wall portion which is thicker than the thin wall portion.

1 13. The vehicular member construction as claimed in claim 12, in which the  
2 metallic straight hollow member is formed into an eccentric pipe comprising an  
3 inner cylindrical surface and an outer cylindrical surface, a center of the inner  
4 cylindrical surface being eccentric from a center of the outer cylindrical surface.

1 14. The vehicular member construction as claimed in claim 9, in which the side  
2 member comprises a suspension link bracket for supporting a suspension link for  
3 linking the side member and a wheel of the vehicle, the suspension link bracket  
4 being mounted on the thick wall portion of the side member, the thick wall portion  
5 being thicker than the thin wall portion of the side member.

1 15. The vehicular member construction as claimed in claim 9, in which the thick  
2 wall portion that is thicker than the thin wall portion is formed through a hydraulic  
3 forming method comprising the following sequential operations of:  
4 bending a workpiece which is straight and hollow; and  
5 pressing the workpiece so that the workpiece has a cross section which is  
6 substantially rectangular in shape.

1 16. The vehicular member construction as claimed in claim 15, in which upper and  
2 lower dies used for the hydraulic forming method defines a cavity which is formed  
3 with an inner surface, and in which a gap defined between the workpiece and a  
4 unique portion of the inner surface of the cavity is greater than a gap defined  
5 between the workpiece and other portion of the inner surface other than the unique  
6 portion, the workpiece being of the at least one of the side member and the cross  
7 member.

1 17. A production process of forming a vehicular member construction, the process  
2 comprising:

3 forming a metallic straight hollow member by extrusion of aluminum material  
4 which is one of aluminum and aluminum alloy; and  
5 bending the metallic straight hollow member into a metallic curved hollow  
6 member, the metallic curved hollow member having a hollow cross section which  
7 comprises a thin wall portion and a thick wall portion which is thicker than the thin  
8 wall portion.

1 18. A vehicular member construction comprising:

2 a pair of side members extending substantially in a fore-and-aft direction of a  
3 vehicle and spaced apart from each other substantially in a widthwise direction of  
4 the vehicle; and

5 a cross member for connecting the pair of the side members;

6 wherein at least one of the side member and the cross member has a hollow  
7 cross section comprising a cross-shaped portion.

1 19. The vehicular member as claimed in claim 18, in which the at least one of the  
2 side member and the cross member that has the hollow cross section comprising the  
3 cross-shaped portion is produced by bending a metallic straight hollow member  
4 produced by extrusion of aluminum material which is one of aluminum and  
5 aluminum alloy.

1 20. A production process of forming a vehicular member construction, the process  
2 comprising:

3 forming a metallic straight hollow member by extrusion of aluminum material  
4 which is one of aluminum and aluminum alloy; and  
5 bending the metallic straight hollow member into a metallic curved hollow  
6 member, the metallic curved hollow member having a hollow cross section which  
7 comprises a cross-shaped portion.